

and tourism creates a \$63 billion business, and that it is the Nation's second largest employer?

Last year in Wisconsin, for example, tourism brought in some \$6 billion. That is more than \$17 million a day, and it creates jobs for some 128,000 workers. In my district, people vacationing or traveling for business spent \$700 million and created 18,000 new jobs. And that is true of just about every single congressional district in America.

Restaurants, hotels, service stations, gift shops, rental services, and taverns all rely on the tourism dollar. We in Congress need to recognize this industry for the jobs and prosperity it creates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members to call my office to sign on as original co-sponsors on far-reaching travel and tourism legislation that I will be introducing.

#### U.S. TRADE POLICY SEES NO CHANGE, AMERICAN JOBS STILL THREATENED

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, everybody was cheering because the Trade Representative finally stood up to those Chinese dictators. Not for long. At this moment they are negotiating a \$8 billion energy deal with China. Beam me up. John Wayne is rolling over in his grave.

When will we learn, Congress, that from Nixon to Clinton this policy of engagement is nothing more than a policy of surrender that is killing the American workers. I say enough is enough. No more wimp-outs, no more deals, no more promises. Congress should strip China of its most-favored-nation trade status or Congress has no anatomy at all.

Mr. Speaker, the last I heard, it was still Uncle Sam. Let us not treat him like Uncle Sucker anymore.

#### THE ONGOING RECORD OF THE 104TH CONGRESS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I hope the American people listening note the contrast between what the Democrats are talking—trivial, mean-spirited nonsense—and what we are talking about—the important issues facing America. It is a pity that they have nothing worthwhile to say.

If there is one thing the American people appreciate is hard work. After all, we are a nation built on hard work.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to report that the statistics are in, and this January was the most productive since before 1981. Let's compare some average numbers for the first January in

each Congress from 1981 to 1993 with the January just ended.

Number of hours in session—1981-93: 28. This Congress: 115.

Number of votes—1981-93: 9.3. This Congress: 79.

Number of committee/subcommittee sessions—1981-93: 25.4. This Congress: 155.

Number of measures reported out of committee—1981-93: 1.6. This Congress: 14.

Mr. Speaker, the numbers speak for themselves. This has been the most productive Congress in recent history.

#### SUPPORT URGED FOR RAISING THE MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE

(Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the President on recommending a minimum wage increase for the hard-working people of this country.

There are people who wake up every single morning in this country, go to work every day, and at the end of the day they are still poor, not because they are lazy but because we need to raise the minimum wage.

It is an absolute shame, Mr. Speaker, that there are people who walk into this Chamber making \$550 a day and tell people who are making a mere \$680 a month that they are not entitled to a cost-of-living adjustment. I find that to be absolutely outrageous at best.

Mr. Speaker, we have not raised the minimum wage since April 1991; according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are an estimated 11 million workers who earn the minimum wage, two-thirds of which are adults.

Sixty percent are women, many are heads of the households.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, what better way to get people off of the welfare rolls, than by giving them a chance to be on a payroll that pays a decent wage.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand up for the working people in the country and vote "yes" to a minimum wage increase, so that people can get paid for the hard work that they do every single day of their life.

#### THE HOUSE SETS A NEW RECORD FOR PRODUCTIVITY

(Mr. MARTINI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, correct me if I am wrong, but was it not Casey Stengel who often said, "You could look it up"?

Well, you could look it up, Mr. Speaker. When we have our 100th vote sometime today, we will have set a new record for productivity. Not only have we had 100 votes earlier than any other

Congress in the last 15 years, but we have also had more votes.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, it has been hard work. But look at what we have to show: A balanced budget amendment, a line-item veto, an unfunded mandates bill, and maybe most important, a reformed Congress that is restoring the faith of the American people in their Government. After 40 years of one-party rule, this is no small achievement. It comes from working hard and keeping promises.

Today we will keep another promise when we continue work on the crime package. So far we have provided restitution for victims of crime. By the close of business today, we will have put an end to technical loopholes and established an effective death penalty.

Mr. Speaker, it is all part of the real change America wants.

#### MANDATORY BINDING ARBITRATION RECOMMENDED TO SETTLE THE BASEBALL STRIKE

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, big league ball players, managers, league owners, play ball.

In the last Congress, last September, I introduced a mandatory binding arbitration bill to try to save this year's season for the national pastime. I re-introduced that bill in this Congress last month.

I have been working with the President and the Secretary of Labor, and the President is writing and will send up this week his preference for binding arbitration, and I will be introducing that. Let us hope that the leadership of this House will play ball with the President. Let us save the 1995 baseball season.

#### SUPPORT URGED FOR BILL TO LIMIT FEDERAL APPEALS FOR CONVICTED FELONS

(Mr. WHITE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WHITE. Mr. Speaker, in 1982, in my district, a man named Charles Campbell slit the throat of an 8-year-old girl, her mother, and a next-door neighbor. He was convicted by a county jury, and under elaborate procedures designed to give him every benefit of the doubt, he was sentenced to the death penalty by a separate jury. Yet last April, 12 years after his sentence, the sentence had still not been carried out.

Why? He had spent his time in five separate appeals, three Federal appeals, trying to evade his sentence. None of the appeals had any merit, and he was finally executed last May.

Mr. Speaker, none of us is happy when a criminal has to be executed, but the present system makes a mockery not only of the death penalty but